

REMARKS

Claims 29 - 38, 40 - 41, and 43 are pending. Claims 39 and 42 have been cancelled. Claims 30, 33, 38, and 41 have been amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In the final Office Action dated January 13, 2005, the Examiner allowed claims 29, 32, 34 - 37.

The Examiner rejected claims 30, 31, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite due to lack of antecedent basis. Claims 30 and 33 have been amended to address the antecedent basis questions. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn. Claims 30, 31, and 33 depend, directly or indirectly on allowed claim 29.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 29 - 37 are in condition for allowance.

The examiner rejected claims 38 and 41 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting an essential step and identified the omitted steps as being "decrypting the encrypted random private key using a first hash value as the encryption key to generate a random private key." The Examiner stated that claims 38 and 41 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended claims 38 and 41 to include the omitted step identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 38 and 41 are in condition for allowance.

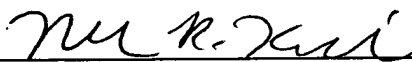
Claim 40 and 43 depend on claims 38 and 41, respectively. Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that claims 40 and 43 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and a favorable action is respectfully solicited. If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call either of the undersigned attorneys at the Los Angeles telephone number (213) 488-7100 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance.

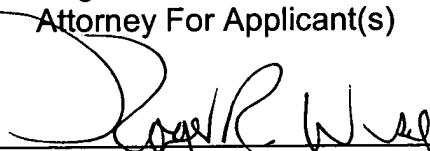
Respectfully submitted,

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